

SENATE BILL 27
By Herron

AN ACT to name a bridge in the Jones Mill Community of Henry County after Bernice Rainey.

WHEREAS, From time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name bridges in honor of those individuals whose lives have helped shape their communities; and

WHEREAS, Bernice Rainey is one such individual, living in the Jones Mill Community of Henry County for over eighty years; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rainey and her late husband, Frank, bought a store in the Jones Mill Community in 1943 and returned to Henry County in 1945 to manage the store; and

WHEREAS, With World War II recently ending and rationing a continuing standard practice, the Rainey's were able to purchase fifty gallons of gasoline, twelve pounds of coffee beans, and sixty pounds of sugar, ingredients from which they built their general store; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rainey managed the store during the warmer months, when Frank operated a mobile store in Jones Mill and other rural communities; and

WHEREAS, Though in many ways the world has moved on from those bygone times, the store stands today as a monument to the history and heritage of the Jones Mill Community, acting as a landmark to those loyal customers whose patronage is unending; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rainey and her late husband have meant a great deal to the residents of Jones Mill that they, along with the Henry County Commission, desire to honor the impact they have had on their community by naming a bridge in Henry County along State Route 140; and

WHEREAS, This General Assembly heartily concurs with this excellent proposal; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the bridge of State Route 140 located at Log Mile 20.52 in Henry County is hereby designated as the "Bernice Rainey Bridge".

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating such bridge of State Highway 140 as "Bernice Rainey Bridge".

SECTION 3. The erection of such directional signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5.

(1) This act shall become operative only if Henry County, Tennessee, either remits the estimated cost of the erection of such signs to the department of transportation within one (1) year of the effective date of this act or manufactures such signs in accordance with the

provisions of subdivision (2). Henry County shall make such payment prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to Henry County within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, Henry County shall remit an amount equal to the difference in such costs to the department within thirty (30) days of receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

(2) Henry County may manufacture and erect such signs provided, that such signs are manufactured and erected pursuant to state and federal guidelines and approved by the department.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.